LIBERAL ARTS COLLEGE

Concordia
UNIVERSITY

TOLLE, LEGE

All of a sudden, coming from the neighbouring yard, I heard the voice of a young child - I do not know whether it was a boy or a girl - who chanted constantly: "Tolle, lege!". "Pick up [the book] and read!"

(St. Augustine)

The entire soul must be turned away from this changing world, until its eye can bear to contemplate Reality and that supreme splendor we have called the Good.

(Plato)

My sole aim is to reveal myself; and I may be different tomorrow if some new lesson changes me.

(Michel de Montaigne)

I was so assailed by so many doubts and errors that the only profit I appeared to have drawn from trying to become educated was progressively to have discovered my ignorance.

(René Descartes)

We must have...books which come upon us deeply...A book must be an ice-axe to break the sea frozen inside us...

(Franz Kafka)

LIBERAL ARTS COLLEGE

Liberal Arts College is a special programme *and* a special place, unique in Montreal and across Canada. As a programme, its demanding, required "Great Books" Core Curriculum (42 of the 90 degree-credits necessary for university graduation) consists of a series of interrelated, multidisciplinary year-long seminars. The Core represents a twentieth-century vision of liberal arts education, a sustained "conversation" with men and women whose thought, from antiquity forward, constitutes "the Western tradition".

The College assumes that to know who we are, and hence what we might become, we must first know where and what we have been. LAC's carefully-crafted curriculum is designed to provide serious students with the indispensable tools—factual knowledge and analytic-expressive techniques—crucial to their self-development as educated persons.

We view the Western tradition as worth studying not only intrinsically, as a cultural corpus of great power and beauty, but because it has also been, and is, self-critical, able to address—and to right—past wrongs, exclusions and repressions. The tradition, like us, both changes, and remains the same.

There is nothing "elitist" about studying Western society and culture, or about taking ideas seriously. "Great Books" are great not because they represent unchanging values, but because they involve us in a mutually ongoing critical dialogue, reading us as much as we read them.

The College, a free and open place, has no exclusive philosophical or ideological bias. LAC's faculty Fellows and students have diverse points of view: what binds them together is shared commitment to serious study, and mutual respect as members of an academic community engaged in a common intellectual enterprise.

FACILITIES

Liberal Arts College is housed in its own four-story building at 2040 Mackay Street, on Concordia University's downtown Sir George Williams Campus. Near the University's new Library complex, and a few blocks from the Museum of Fine Arts and the Place des Arts performing arts center, LAC is at the heart of Montreal's academic and cultural life.

All College seminars are given at 2040 Mackay, where the accessible staff of resident Faculty Fellows has its offices. The *Rita Tucker Library*, one of the few private libraries at Concordia, is located in the College, as are our Reception Hall and Common Room, where regular weekly faculty-student Coffee Hours are held.

COLLEGE LIFE

Class trips (to New York City's museums and theaters and, periodically at year's end, to Europe) reinforce the Core Curriculum. Student groups abound, and play--including periodic theme weekends and the Christmas and February Break parties--supplements College work.

The annual College magazine prints student submissions, and the year ends with the traditional "Last Supper". Our "Friends of the College" community group and the Alumni/ae Society and its *Minerva* magazine support the College.

WHO COMES TO LAC?

Since its inception in 1977, the College has earned an international reputation as a unique educational resource. It attracts many able applicants seeking a broad yet intensive university education, from Montreal-area English and French CEGEP's, from Quebec and across Canada, the U.S., and outside North America.

Students are drawn by the College's multidisciplinary "Great Books" Core Curriculum education, by its international reputation for academic excellence, and by its small size and personalized learning environment. Some value the Core's ability to aid in finding a specific disciplinary "Major"; others value the special combination of a small College with a large urban university's rich academic resources; and many enjoy the opportunity LAC represents in Montreal and Quebec of studying in both an English and French milieu.

LAC'S COMMITMENT TO TEACHING

LAC emphasizes careful and creative teaching, on a personalized seminar basis.

All College students benefit from small classes and close

advising. LAC's respected program of Liberal Arts Lecturers, outstanding Visiting Scholars who give both public talks and College-only seminars, enriches the program across the academic year, as do the First Year trips to New York City. Periodically-organized Third-Year European study-tours (so far to Vienna; Athens and Jerusalem; Moscow and St. Petersburg; and for 1998 to Florence, Italy) also complement the Core program.

LAC'S ENTRANCE REQUIREMENTS

Liberal Arts College seeks serious and able students prepared to work hard to achieve a fine education. General requirements are, normally and minimally, a "B" average from CEGEP or high-school, or equivalent for mature students, and a reading knowledge of a second language, normally French. (Average requirements may be waived, following an interview, in special cases for promising students; students admitted without language background must develop proficiency while resident in the College.)

Given the large number of applicants and the relatively small entering class, we advise you to apply **as early as possible** to facilitate your application, by **contacting the College directly**, by phone or by letter, to arrange the normally required personal interview.

PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS

To graduate, students must complete 90 credits, usually in three years of full-time residence, and do an approved Major or Honours program. The College encourages most students to combine a Departmental disciplinary program ("Major" or "Honours") with the required 42-credit LAC Core; the Core can, with College permission, constitute a "Western Society and Culture" Major. Double College-Departmental majors are possible, and cooperative arrangments with many Departments allow College students to apply 12 Core credits to 60-credit Departmental Honors programs, enabling them to graduate within the normal three-year, 90-credit degree requirements. A 30-credit "Minor in Western Society and Culture" is also available, with College approval.

42 Liberal Arts College—Core Curriculum

1st year

18 LBCL 291, 292, 295

2nd year

18 LBCL 391, 393, 396, 397

3rd year

6 LBCL 490

In addition to completing the Core Curriculum, students must meet the Faculty of Arts and Science degree requirements and complete a departmental Major, Specialization, or Honours programme, or the Individual Studies programme, or the LAC Major in Western Society and Culture.

Honours candidates must maintain a "B" average in their College courses, with no grade lower than a "C". Students in a Major or Specialization programme must maintain a "C" average in their College courses, with no grade lower than a "D".

42 BA Major in Western Society and Culture

1st year

18 LBCL 291, 292, 295

2nd year

18 LBCL 391, 393, 396, 397

3rd year

6 LBCL 490

N.B.: Admission into a Departmental Honours programme requires the approval of the Department.

30 BA Minor in Western Society and Culture

18 LBCL 291, 292, 295

12 LBCL 391, 393

THE COURSES

LBCL 291 Structure and Dynamics of Western Civilization I (6 cr.)

This course emphasizes intellectual, cultural and political traditions from the Biblical period and classical antiquity to the mid-seventeenth century. Texts studied are related to changing social and historical contexts. Primary sources may include *Genesis*, Plato, *The Republic*, Marcus Aurelius, *The Meditations*, Thomas Aquinas, *Summa Theologiae*, Machiavelli, *The Prince* and *The Discourses*, and Montaigne, *Essays*.

LBCL 292 Modes of Expression and Interpretation I (6 cr.)

A study of Western literary, religious, and philosophical traditions, involving the reading and interpretation of significant texts from the Biblical period and classical antiquity to the mid-seventeenth century. Emphasis is placed on the development of writing skills and interpretive analysis. Primary texts may include *Job*, Homer, *The Odyssey*, Plato, *The Symposium*, St. Augustine, *The Confessions*, Dante, *The Divine Comedy*, and Racine, *Phèdre*.

LBCL 295 History of Art (6 cr.)
This course is an integrated study of the nature of the visual arts from antiquity to the twentieth century. Artistic expression is examined through chronological and thematic approaches, with attention paid to the relation between art and society. Architecture walks and museum and gallery visits are included.

LBCL 391 Structure and Dynamics of Western Civilization II (6 cr.)
This course emphasizes intellectual, cultural and political traditions from the mid-seventeenth century to 1914. Texts studied are related to changing social and historical contexts. Primary sources may include Rousseau, *The Social Contract*, Wollstonecraft, *Vindication of the Rights of Women*, Marx, *Capital*, and Freud, *Dora*.

LBCL 393 Modes of Expression and Interpretation II (6 cr.)
A study of Western literary, religious, and philosophical traditions, involving the reading and interpretation of significant primary texts from the mid-seventeenth century to 1914. Emphasis is placed on further development of writing skills and interpretive analysis. Primary texts may include Diderot, *Rameau's Nephew*, Stendhal, *The Red and the Black*, Goethe, *Faust*, Nietzsche, *The Genealogy of Morals*, and Baudelaire, *The Flowers of Evil*.

LBCL 396 History of Music (3 cr.)
This music course introduces students to major works and developments in the Western musical tradition, in their historical contexts. It provides basic structural knowledge enriching students' understanding and enjoyment of music.

LBCL 397 The Sciences and Society (3 cr.)
This course emphasizes the nature of modern science, principally through its development in the nineteenth and twentieth centuries. Readings may include Darwin, *The Origin of the Species*, and Kuhn, *Structure of Scientific Revolutions*.

LBCL 490 The Twentieth Century: Forms, Themes, Critiques (6 cr.)
This course emphasizes key issues in contemporary society and culture. Major twentieth-century texts and documents—philosophical, literary, political and artistic—as well as analytical material drawn from history and social sciences, are read. Primary sources may include de Beauvoir, *The Second Sex*, Joyce, *Ulysses*, Woolf, *To the Lighthouse*, Levi, *Survival in Auschwitz*, and Berlin, *Four Essays on Liberty*.

The Psychiatric Self in Art,
Thirty Years Among the Plastic Poor
Can we survive in office Technocracy?

LAC LAC LAC LAC LAC LAC LAC

APPLYING TO LAC

Students wishing to apply to LAC should fill out the regular Concordia University Application for Admission, checking off "Liberal Arts College" on the form.

Students can also facilitate their applications by **contacting the College directly**, by phone or by letter, to arrange the personal interview and reading comprehension test required of all applicants. Given the large number of applicants, arranging the interview **as early as possible** is advisable.

"STATEMENT OF PURPOSE" ESSAY

An original, typed "Statement of Purpose" (1-2 pp.), on why one wishes to come to LAC, is also required of all applicants. Students who wish to do so may also ask instructors to send the College letters of recommendation.

SCHOLARSHIP AID

Students applying to the Liberal Arts College are eligible for Concordia Entrance Scholarships, as well as other available awards. Scholarship applications, available at CEGEPs, or by request from the Registrar's Office, must be completed by **March 1st**, to ensure eligibility. The College also has a small number of internal scholarships. Information about these are available from the LAC office.

Do not hesitate to phone us (at [514] 848-2565) or to visit us (at 2040 Mackay Street), Monday to Friday from 9 to 5 (Coffee Hour, Thursdays 4:00-5:00 P.M.) in order to obtain any further information, to arrange a personal interview, or to sit in on a seminar. A more complete description of the College's requirements and Core Curriculum can also be found in the Concordia University Calendar.

Filling out and returning the **tear-off sheet** attached to the back of this brochure will indicate interest and **expedite** your application.

LAC CORE FACULTY

Principal and Permanent Fellow
GEOFFREY C. FIDLER, Associate Professor, Education

Vice-Principal and Permanent Fellow
HARVEY SHULMAN, Associate Professor, Political Science

Permanent Core Fellows
CLAUDIA CLAUSIUS, Associate Professor,
Liberal Arts College (on leave 1997-99)
FREDERICK H. KRANTZ, Associate Professor, History

Fellows
MARC LALONDE, Assistant Professor, Liberal Arts
College and Religion
VIRGINIA NIXON, Assistant Professor, Liberal Arts College
FRANZISKA SHLOSSER, Associate Professor, History

Adjunct Fellows
IRVING H. SMITH, Associate Professor, History
LASZLO K. GEFIN, Associate Professor, English

Non-Teaching Fellows
FREDERICK BODE, Professor, History
PAMELA BRIGHT, Associate Professor, Theological Studies
MICHAEL BROSS, Associate Professor, Psychology
ROSEMARY HALE, Assistant Professor, Religion
GEZA SZAMOSI, Principal, Science College

Associate Fellows
BRENDA CORNELL, Lecturer, Liberal Arts College
WILLIAM ELLIS, Lecturer, Liberal Arts College
DAVID GELINEAU, Lecturer, Liberal Arts College
VESSELIN PETKOV, Lecturer, Physics
ANDRAS UNGAR, Lecturer, English

FRIENDS OF THE COLLEGE

Lois and Stan Tucker, benefactors of LAC's Library and scholarship fund, are part of the "Friends of the College," devoted community people who share and support the College's unique educational vision.

THE LAC LECTURES

Each year the College presents a series of Lectures, open to the public, given by distinguished international scholars addressing issues and themes related to the College's Core Curriculum. Each Lecturer also gives a special seminar open only to College students.

SOME OF OUR GRADUATES

Our graduates have found that working through LAC's Core Curriculum enriches both their lives and their "real world" skills. College certification has also proved a marked asset in graduate and professional school admissions. Here are a few examples of our graduates' varied career and job routes:

Julie Amblard *(LAC/B. Administration, 1982)*--Work with Club Med; M.B.A. Marketing, 1987; Professor of Business, and Business Consultant for Chamber of Commerce, Nice, France. *"LAC prepared me for life, in the deepest sense."*

Sam Black *(LAC/Political Science, 1986)*--Ph.D., Polit. Theory, Cambridge University, England; SSHRC Post-Doctoral Fellow; Instructor, Department of Philosophy, York University, England; book forthcoming, Oxford U.P.

Loreto Beiger *(LAC/Journalism, 1988)*--1988-89, freelance journalist in Chile; 1989-91, reporter, Canadian Press; 1991-, business consultant for CIDA, Chile.

Eddie Breuer *(LAC/Religion, 1982)*--Ph.D., Judaic Studies, Harvard University, 1990; doctoral research in Israel, 1986-88; Assistant Professor, Religion, University of Pennsylvania, 1990-. *"LAC's Core gave me a crucially-important educational foundation".*

Anjali Choksi *(LAC/English, 1986)*--LL.B., Montreal, 1990; working in field of native law.

Dwayne Desaulnier *(LAC/Political Science, 1989)*--M.A., Public Administration, Carleton University; 1990, covered Gulf war for Standard Broadcast News; currently Assignment Editor, Parliamentary Bureau, Standard Broadcast News.

Norberto De Sousa *(LAC/Political Science, 1984)*--M.A., Political Science, McGill University; Ph.D. candidate, Politics, Cambridge University, England; Fellow, Sidney Sussex College, Cambridge. *"I'm glad to hear the College is flourishing—it was such a good idea to begin with."*

Cliff Doerksen *(LAC/History, 1992)*--Ph.D. , full scholarship, History, Princeton University, 1992-

Ghislain Dufour *(LAC/Political Science, 1985)*--M.A., Political Science; Diplôme Valeur Mobilière in administration; Director, S.I.D.A.C., Lachine; President, SAJE Sud-Ouest, Montréal.

John W. Hatch *(LAC/Economics, 1982)*--B.F.A., Concordia University; M.A., Art History, Queen's University, Kingston, Ont.; Ph.D., Art History, University of Essex, U.K. *"I am an art-historian because of LAC's Core, where I discovered art."*

David Kahane *(LAC, 1986)*--Taught at Sichuan University, China, 1986-7; M.A., Political Theory, McGill University, 1988-90; Ph.D., Social and Political Science, Cambridge University, in progress.

Iain Macdonald *(LAC/English, 1989)*--M.A., Critical and Cultural Theory, University of Wales College of Cardiff; Ph.D., Philosophy, University of Essex, England; post-doctoral research fellow, Humboldt-Universitat zu Berlin. *"My years at the College gave me insights into cultural heritage that have driven me onward ever since."*

Elena Mantagaris *(LAC/English Lit., 1996)*--M.P.A., Public Administration, Queen's University, 1997. Policy Analyst at Treasury Board of Canada. *"LAC revealed a world of intellectual and artistic wonders to me, and allowed me to be a "contrarian" in the public service. I try to raise the standards of public policy to reflect the great works I studied at LAC".*

Carole McQueen *(LAC/History, 1995)*--Rhodes Scholar currently studying at Balliol College, Oxford University. *"Not only has LAC whetted my intellectual appetite, intensifying my curiosity and thirst for knowledge, it has also provided me with practical skills that are essential in the professional world."*